

**UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re: Examiner: Unknown Art Unit: Unknown  
Application of: FEENSTRA, Frits Kornelis  
Serial No.: To be assigned  
Filed: herewith  
For: **METHOD FOR MAKING A DENTAL ELEMENT**

#6/P.O. A  
N.L.H.  
1-903**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 22, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

A<sup>1</sup> 3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the shape and dimensions of the dental element are measured in a patient while using an optical scan technique, preferably a laser technique.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

A<sup>2</sup> 5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein layers of a suitable material are successively applied onto each other by three-dimensional printing and wherein each layer is bonded at desired positions to a preceding layer thereby allowing the removal of excess, non-adhering material.